

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting**  
**May 22, 2017, 5:30-6:45 pm**  
**Town Hall Rm 217**

Members in attendance: Chris Bennett, Kim Evans, John Minze, Sarah Needham, Robin Collins, Shawna Kitzman, Brian Clifford

Members absent: Terry Schmitt, Greg Shimmer

Non-members in attendance: Helen Rubino-Turco, Rosemary DaCunha

1. Park-to-Park Walk
  - a. Rosemary DaCunha from Friends of Fernridge Park gave an overview of her fundraising idea to organize a walk to each park in West Hartford on June 17<sup>th</sup>
  - b. There is a gofundme site setup for this event
  - c. While she is organizing this event personally, the goal is to raise money for a promenade around the pool at Fernridge Park, which is estimated to cost \$100k
2. Troutbrook Trail
  - a. Helen reviewed the update information provided by Duane Martin.
  - b. Phases 5 and 6 involved state land, and town and state officials have met to discuss two agreements related to building on state land and maintenance/flood control. The design review is in process.
  - c. Phase 3 has received \$500k bonding support through Sen. Beth Bye. Town will begin to design this portion shortly
3. Fishing Festival- Doug Jackson from Westmoor Park
  - a. Will provide an update on attendance at next meeting
4. Budget
  - a) While the Town's proposed budget passed, it continues to be a difficult budget year
  - b) Proposed State cut in funding to West Hartford by \$25 million for this year and next
  - c) West Hartford budget information is pending decisions made by State legislature.
5. UConn Property Update
  - a) Still working through details
  - b) Expected to finalize in October
6. Cornerstone Pool Management
  - a) Town completed the RFP process
  - b) The contract with the selected vendor, HealthFitness, is close to being finalized
  - c) Transition is planned for July 1
  - d) Looking into a new Point Of Sale (POS) system
7. Facility Improvements
  - a) Cornerstone locker rooms are being updated to be ADA compliant
    - i. Adding a communal space with large changing rooms
    - ii. Community block and HUD grants will be utilized for funding
  - b) Roof replacement at Fernridge Park
  - c) Fernridge Park lower restrooms (and Kennedy) are not ADA compliant, these are on the list of potential projects if more HUD funding becomes available
  - d) Baseball lights at UConn – WHYBL is verifying they have funds necessary for the project; the Town is not contributing to the funding of this project

8. Wolcott Park Planning
  - a) Peter Miniutti gave a presentation to Town Manager and select Directors; he is now developing a few options for the final plan
  - b) Planning on a final presentation to the Town Council Sub-committee in the summer
  - c) Currently there is funding in the budgets for some improvements to the park
9. Celebrate West Hartford
  - a. Looking for volunteers
  - b. Scheduled for June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>
  - c. The 5k registration table will now be at the main Celebrate Registration tables instead of Whole Foods
10. Leisure Services Social Media
  - a. Updating Facebook; please visit the site and like the page to keep up with updates
11. Other Business
  - a. Retirement dinner for Ron Van Winkle
  - b. Recently someone made a \$500 anonymous donation to Kennedy Park
12. Next Meeting— June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Kennedy Park

Minutes submitted by Chris Bennett